PATENT 8030-1001

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Takaaki TOYOOKA et al.

Appl. No.:

Group:

Filed:

February 13, 2002

Examiner:

For:

STEEL TUBE FOR USE IN REINFORCEMENT OF

AUTOMOBILE AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

February 13, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 5. (amended) A steel tube for reinforcing a automobile door according to claim 1, wherein the yield ratio of the steel tube is no larger than 80 %.
- 6. (amended) A steel tube for reinforcing a automobile door of any according to claim 1, wherein the steel tube has at least one composition selected from the group consisting of composition A, composition B and composition C described below, in addition to the aforementioned composition.

10044510 . CE260E Docket No. 8030-1001

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REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

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BC/ia Attachments

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

- 5. (amended) A steel tube for reinforcing a automobile door according to claim 1 ± 0.4 , wherein the yield ratio of the steel tube is no larger than 80 %.
- 6. (amended) A steel tube for reinforcing a automobile door of any according to claims 1 to 4, claim 1, wherein the steel tube has at least one composition selected from the group consisting of composition A, composition B and composition C described below, in addition to the aforementioned composition.